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President's Newsletter

May 2012

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President's Newsletter

Georgia Southern University

Issue: May 2012

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Georgia Southern University Herty Advanced Materials Development Center to Boost Economic and Business Development in Georgia

On April 24, Georgia Southern welcomed Georgia Governor Nathan Deal to campus to sign Georgia Senate Bill 396 into law. The legislation transfers the management of the Herty Advanced Materials Development Center in Savannah, Ga. to Georgia

Moving Up – Not a Matter of Desire

Are we interested in moving up to play football at the FBS level? Absolutely. There's no question it's where we want to go. Before that happens, it is clear that we (all of us) have a lot of work to do.

For Georgia Southern, it is not a matter of a desire. We must however ensure that we are able to financially support our teams in a way that we can all be proud of. We have been extremely proactive in evaluating our options and are optimistic about the opportunity to move up. We are continuing to take the necessary steps to not only improve our athletics program, but put the University in a position to move when the opportunity presents itself.

There is also a need to be honest and realistic with ourselves. To move our 15 teams (and add an additional sport) will take a significant increase in our athletic operating budget. We would need to add a minimum of \$4.4 million to our annual operating budget for athletics to cover increased costs for travel, recruiting, salaries, scholarships and more.

To make such a move, we need to improve and expand our facilities, increase our athletic budget, and receive an invitation from a conference. We are diligently working on each of these areas, but it is clear that we will need private support from our alumni and friends to make it happen.

Southern University.

The transfer, which will become effective July 1, 2012, will combine the strengths of both Herty and Georgia Southern with the goal of expanding its capabilities as a global leader in traditional and advanced materials innovation. Herty's clients, which include global corporations as well as numerous Fortune 500 companies, are currently focused in the transportation, forest and paper related products, building materials, energy and the environment and bio-products industries. The transfer of Herty to Georgia Southern more than doubles our University's research portfolio. [Read more...](#)



University Magazine

If you haven't read the most recent issue of Georgia Southern magazine, you're missing out. The issue highlights our successful alumni in Nashville including country star Luke Bryan, song

To that end, we have launched an ambitious fundraising campaign titled, Soaring to Victory. This five-phase plan is designed to help put us in a position to compete at the highest level. To read more about our five phase Soaring to Victory campaign, click here (<http://savannahnow.com/sports/2012-04-11/building-future>). Of course, if you would like to support our efforts, please contact the Athletic Foundation at: 912-478-5520 or visit www.ringsanddiplomas.com.



Green College

For the second year in a row, Georgia Southern University has been named to The Princeton Review's Guide to 322 Green Colleges. The guide to the top eco-



Climate Commitment

I recently re-signed the American College & University's President's Climate Commitment, an agreement between nearly 700 colleges and universities to promote sustainability

writers Elizabeth Cook, Ben Hayslip and Dan Adams, budding star Eric Lee Beddingfield and more. Read the magazine online at: georgiasouthern.edu/magazine. The magazine is printed twice per year and is mailed to members of the Alumni Association. If you're not already a member, Join Today.

friendly institutions in the U.S. includes colleges and universities based on their proven commitment to environmental and sustainability issues, and is produced in partnership with the U.S. Green Building Council. [Read more...](#)

through teaching and action. Georgia Southern's signature reaffirms our commitment to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and to accelerate research and education to become climate-neutral. To date, Georgia Southern has undertaken numerous sustainability projects and we are working towards our University becoming a regional leader in this area. [Read more...](#)

SAVE THE DATE(S):

May 9: Southern Conference Softball Tournament (Boone, NC)

May 11: Georgia Southern University Graduate Commencement Ceremony (Hanner Fieldhouse)

May 12: Georgia Southern University Undergraduate Commencement Ceremony (Allen E. Paulson Stadium)

May 18: EFAA Legends of Georgia Southern University Football Golf Tournament (Macon, GA) [Info...](#)

May 23: Southern Conference Baseball Tournament (Greenville, SC).

For more information on University events, please visit the [University Calendar](#).



Research Update

Georgia Southern University's Rural Health Research Institute has been awarded a \$450,000 grant by the Health Resources and Services Administration of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services to provide diabetes education to patients in rural areas. This is a major award and will provide a way for Georgia Southern to get information directly to patients who may not have access to regular transportation and who may go long periods in between doctor's visits.

[Read more...](#)



Stay in Touch

Have you updated your contact information lately? If not, please visit our Alumni Relations Website and update today. We want to stay in touch!

[Update Now.](#)



In Case You Missed It: Georgia Southern Wildlife Center on TV

Georgia Southern's Center for Wildlife Education and Lamar Q Ball, Jr. Raptor Center was recently featured on the popular show, Georgia Traveler. If you have not visited the Wildlife Center on campus, you're missing out. Totalling more than 18 acres, the Center hosts thousands of visitors each year. Whether it is their amazing flight show, live bald eagle displays or trails, it is a popular destination for alumni and tourists looking for that perfect side trip during a family vacation. Did you know that it is the only such center to be located in the middle of a major university campus? Watch for some exciting news from the Center in the coming weeks and months.

[Watch the Video...](#)

coming soon

Next Month

I'll give you a sneak peak at Georgia Southern's new license plate. Georgia Southern has been working with the Department of Motor Vehicles in Georgia to redesign the University's license plate – the first major design in several years. I know that Georgia Southern alumni and Eagle fans across the state are already excited about the new design. The plates are expected to be available this summer in tag offices throughout the state of Georgia.

True Blue

We are always looking for great examples of our students, faculty, staff and alumni showing off their True Blue spirit. I could not help but share this video of a group of students painting the Georgia Southern fight song on their wall.

[Watch the Video...](#)

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The President's Newsletter

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